

Friday Night Fax

A Periodic Publication for Indiana AmeriCorps Programs and Community Service Partners

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Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism

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AmeriCorps Programs Help ICCSV Shape Sustainability Policy

Program directors and coordinators of Indiana's 14 AmeriCorps programs met recently in Indianapolis to fine tune the state's policy on sustainability for funding in Year-7 and beyond. The ICCSV hosted the two-day training on the city's north-side at the Holiday Inn at the Pyramids. Amber Roos, ICCSV deputy director, says the training was designed to determine what expectations should exist for programs that wish to continue their participation in AmeriCorps after the sixth year of federal funding. In October 2001, the ICCSV's Board of Commissioners passed a resolution recommended by its' program committee to develop guidelines on sustainability. "We are now in the development phase of the guidance that the ICCSV will issue to AmeriCorps programs that apply for funding for the 2003-2004 program year and on," says Roos. The Committee's chair, Dr. Will Morgan states that the program committee asked current AmeriCorps programs to participate in the training to help the ICCSV determine what makes a 'Year-7' program distinguishable from programs operating in the fifth year, for example. "First, we need to know what is the standard. Second, how does a program get there? And finally, how will the Commission measure sustainability in the areas of leadership, collaboration, and growth," explains Morgan. "It is not an easy process by any means, but the committee is getting closer to writing the guidance. We are closer to our goal today because of the great input from each of the AmeriCorps programs." Roos notes that one of the finest products to come from the training was the collaboration between the programs and the state commission. After the first-day of training, AmeriCorps program directors and coordinators met to discuss the formation and future of the Indiana AmeriCorps Directors Association (IADA). Expect to hear more about this new organization in future Friday Night Fax articles.

Work Continues at a Steady Pace on Unified State Plan's Next Steps

The ICCSV is gearing up to take Indiana's Unified State Plan for Service (USP) to communities throughout the state. "We are pleased to have a plan of action," says Amber Roos, deputy director at the ICCSV. Roos says that recently the ICCSV staff developed a Concept Paper outlining the Commission's plan for putting the USP into action. "Our goal is to present, through a series of regional town hall meetings and leadership roundtables, volunteerism and community service as one alternative to addressing local needs," says Commissioner Jim Perry, chair of the ICCSV Resource Committee, the group which oversees the USP process. "The underlying theme of the USP is to engage local citizens in their communities. Where those energies are spent - education, community development, citizen development, etc. - is up to each individual community to decide. The ICCSV will be there to assist local communities as both a resource and consultant when called upon." In addition, the ICCSV is developing an Inter-Agency Council to **collaborate** and **communicate** with one another in the **coordination** of state resources designed to assist local communities. "We are very excited about this process," says Roos. "As Governor O'Bannon said in his 1997 State of the State Address, 'we want to spread service across Indiana like wildfire.'" To access Indiana's Unified State Plan for Service and the Concept Paper, please visit the ICCSV's web site at www.in.gov/iccsv/unified or for more information contact the ICCSV at 317-233-4273.

Order Your 2003 Indiana 2016 Calendars Now!

The ICCSV would like to share an exciting opportunity to have your name on a calendar that shares the message of community building. Indiana 2016 is now taking orders for their 2003 calendar. This calendar will include all national service dates as well as other important dates to Hoosiers. For more information on the calendar and to view the 2002 version, please visit their website at www.indiana2016.org. You just might recognize some of the faces in the 2003 version of calendar!

Congratulations to Brandy and Carey!

The ICCSV is very pleased to announce the promotion of both Brandy Wood to the position of Program Officer and Carey Craig to Senior Program Officer. Both Brandy and Carey have brought incredible dedication, energy and expertise to their positions at the ICCSV – it is with great excitement that their acceptance of these positions was received. Carey will play a lead role in the management of the AmeriCorps programs and will be the primary point of contact for seven of the programs, including the planning grant. He will also be responsible for the leadership of the Unified State Plan process and the ICCSV contact for faith based and small community based initiatives. Brandy will manage four AmeriCorps programs, the disability recruitment and outreach initiative, the Promise Fellow program and serve as the ICCSV contact for USA Freedom Corps, specifically Citizen Corps. The service and leadership provided by the ICCSV team will continue to be of a very high quality and we will continue to challenge national service participants across the State of Indiana to be the very best!

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2002 AmeriCorps Opening Ceremonies – October 25th

The ICCSV will kick-off the 2002-2003 AmeriCorps program year with an Opening Ceremony for new and returning AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, Promise Fellow and VISTA members. The statewide event will take place at the **Indiana War Memorial** (431 North Meridian Street) on **Friday, October 25, 2002**. Registration will begin at 10:00 A.M. with the Opening Ceremonies getting underway at 10:30 A.M. "We think it is fitting that this ceremony honoring America's 'domestic foot soldiers' will be held in a memorial to those who gave their lives for our democratic way of life," says Joseph L. Smith, Sr., the ICCSV's executive director. AmeriCorps members and invited guests will attend a luncheon from 12:00 to 1:30 P.M. at the Scottish Rite Cathedral. Smith says the luncheon will feature an inter-generational panel in which individuals from the G.I. to the Millennial generation will share their experiences in relationship to the era in which they came of age and how those experiences have shaped who they are and why they serve. Beginning at 1:30 P.M. guests will return to Pershing Auditorium at the War Memorial where new and returning members will participate in an Induction Ceremony, where they will recite the AmeriCorps Pledge. Congresswoman Julia Carson, an AmeriCorps supporter, has been invited to induct members and offer remarks. After the brief ceremony, members will have an opportunity to meet with individuals from other programs to discuss the role of citizens and civic engagement in a democratic society in facilitated discussion groups. The ICCSV estimates the day's event to conclude at 4:00 P.M.

Make A Difference Day

If you have not done so already, please mark your calendars for *Make A Difference Day* on Saturday, October 26, 2002. Created by USA WEEKEND Magazine, *Make A Difference Day* is an annual event and is the most encompassing national day of helping others -- a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. Everyone can participate! If your organization is hosting a *Make A Difference Day* event, please let us know! Please send a small blurb of 200 words or less regarding the day's events and activities and contact information to Brandy Wood at bwood@dwd.state.in.us for inclusion on our website!

ICCSV Welcomes A Governor's Fellow

The ICCSV is pleased to welcome Adam Long to the ICCSV team. Adam will be serving with the ICCSV as a Governor's Fellow from September 30th – December 27th. He will be working on the Citizen Corps initiative (homeland security) in partnership with the Indiana Counter-Terrorism and Security Council. Adam graduated from the University of Southern Indiana in May 2002, where he majored in political science. He comes to the ICCSV team to learn more about the world of volunteerism, and chose to participate as a Governor's Fellow to learn more about state government. Welcome Adam!

Tip of the Month!

Did You Know? **Civicus** is an international organization dedicated to promoting a worldwide community of **informed, inspired, committed citizens** who are **actively engaged** in confronting the challenges facing humanity. For more information, please visit their Web Site at www.civicus.org.

Keep in Touch!

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Important Deadlines and Upcoming Events

AmeriCorps Opening Ceremonies	October 25, 2002
Make A Difference Day	October 26, 2002
General Election Day	November 5, 2002
Veteran's Day	November 11, 2002
PER for October	November 12 th , 2002**
National Philanthropy Day	November 15, 2002
National Family Volunteer Day	November 23, 2002

** Note this is different than the date in the calendar as the 11th is a Veteran's Day